

REMARKS

The Office Action of September 5, 2008, has been carefully reviewed, and in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

In the above Office Action, claims 1 and 3-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,158,182 to *Biebuyck*, claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Biebuyck*, claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Biebuyck* in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,064,110 to *Vogler*, and claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Biebuyck* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,715,248 to *Biebuyck*. For at least the following reasons, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

As set forth above, amended claim 1 is directed to an improvement for a curtain wall structure having a sill defining a U-shaped channel for receiving a wall panel therewithin. The sill comprises a structural portion alongside the channel which includes at least one opening for receiving means for securing the sill in place. The sill further comprises an inwardly open recess disposed inwardly of the U-shaped channel and the structural portion thereof, and a cover for said recess. The recess and cover thus define at least one wireway for power and/or data/telecommunication cables.

One of the advantages of the claimed invention is that it provides a wireway or so-called channel for the cables which is separate and distinct from the channel housing the bolt or other securing means which attaches the sill to the concrete slab. The channel housing the bolt must include holes in order for the bolt to pass

therethrough, thus allowing dust and dirt to enter the housing. The provision of a separate wireway without such holes eliminates this issue.

The primary reference upon which the Examiner relies, Biebuyck '182, discloses a curtain wall having a U-shaped receiving area for panel 120d and a structure 134 having holes 168 so that bolts 46 can be inserted therethrough. However, Biebuyck '182, does not disclose or suggest a further channel or wireway disposed inwardly of both the U-shaped receiving area and the structure having the bolts. As such, Biebuyck '182 does not disclose an inwardly open recess disposed inwardly of the U-shaped channel and the structural portion thereof, and a cover for said recess, where the recess and cover thus define at least one wireway for power and/or data/telecommunication cables. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the applied reference.

A detailed discussion of the additional distinguishing aspects of the curtain wall structure recited in dependent claims 2-12 is not set forth at this time as the dependent claims are allowable by virtue of their dependence from allowable independent claim 1.

Newly added claims 13-19 recite features similar those discussed above and are patentable over the applied references for at least these reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application; the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned counsel for Applicant regarding the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

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By:



Wendi L. Weinstein
Registration No. 34456

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620